

OSCILLATIONS



Spring 2022 volume 1

KANM student radio

ASTREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS ZINE

About this project:

wait A&M has a student radio station??

get this: we do. and also we're very (very) old. KANM Student Radio has been around for exactly 50 years come this October. We wanted to return to our y2k era and try our hand at publishing a real physical zine for the first time in about 20 years. All of the content you're about to see was created by our members, curated by our members, and slapped on these pages by our members. We've got album reviews, we've got recipes, we've got edgy poetry, we've got graphs and we've got bar charts. (what's not to love!) Most of all we wanted to share a little tidbit of what we're about with the university community. So. Enjoy!

Acknowledgements:

who we'd like to thank who we'd like to congratulate who just wants to see their name in here

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and General
Members



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THE COLLEGE STATION OF COLLEGE STATION

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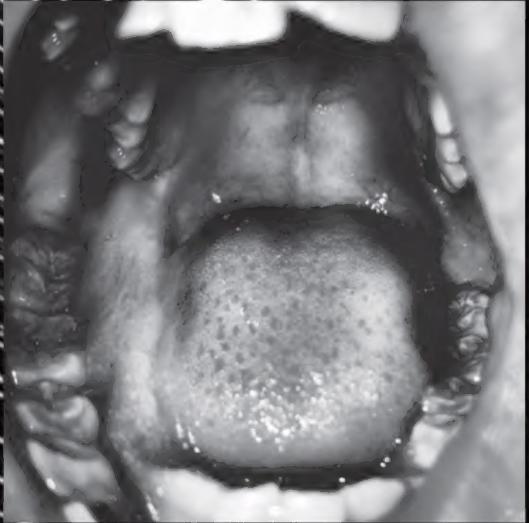
Rex Orange County - WHO CARES?
by Skylar Fletcher

Have you ever wanted to listen to an album that scratches every part of your brain, but isn't something that's just instrumental? Then this album is for you! WHO CARES is wonderful, it has music that makes you want to dance while also the added excitement of Rex Orange County's voice. He has such a unique voice that anything he sings is instantly something people are talking about, but this album just hits all the right spots in my brain. I listened to this album for the first time in my room, laying underneath my bed wishing I could paint because I couldn't express in words what this album made me feel. "OPEN A WINDOW" ft Tyler, the Creator is amazing because of the verse that Tyler has in this song. The contrast of Rex Orange County and Tyler's voices is amazing, Tyler brings in a kind of jazz component to the song that really made this song stand out. The album ends with "WHO CARES" the albums namesake and what an ending it was! I can see why Rex picked this song to end with because it made me feel like everything was going to be okay. The feeling I got from this song is what made it my favorite from the album; this album is real and I hope everybody enjoyed it as much as I do.

Mom Jeans - Sweet Tooth
by Skylar Fletcher

Now I will be completely honest; while I knew OF Mom Jeans, I never actually listened to them until they had a couple of songs trending on Tiktok. Especially *sobs quietly* that song is probably the first Mom Jeans. song I ever had on repeat, but their new album Sweet Tooth (for me) the entire album has been on repeat. Sweet Tooth is Mom Jeans. third album and I believe it is different from their other two albums. This album is more pop punk than their previous albums. I listened to this album for the first time and felt like an angsty teen listening to Forever the Sickest Kids for the first time all over again. They have the classic pop punk sound with the heart-wrenching Mom Jeans. lyrics that 2022 was missing. This album brought me back to my roots and reminded me that pop punk was my villain origin story. My top 2 songs from this album are "Something Sweet" and "Circus Clown"; both songs are pop punk but on the completely different ends of the spectrum. "Something Sweet" is all guitar riffs while "Circus Clown" is a roll your windows down and yell the lyrics, but both songs will have you up and dancing. If you miss what '00s pop punk scene, then this album is for you.





Hana Vu - Public Storage

by Victoria Ponce

Hana Vu is a “DIY” singer-songwriter. Born in LA, California, Vu began her passion for music as a child and by the age of 14 started performing. Hana Vu has opened for bands like Soccer Mommy and Wet. Vu’s family were regular users of self-storage spaces having been moving every few years. This in turn reflected in her album. “These public expressions of

thoughts, feelings, baggage, experiences that accumulate every year and fill little units such as ‘albums.’” This is what Vu says she sees making and releasing songs has in common with the tiny concrete, steel boxes that hold the timeline of her past. Throughout this album, knowing the thought behind the process, you unload with Vu. Every song is a different storage unit of thought and emotion that Hana Vu declares through her lyrics. The evocative force of this album makes you feel small, not in a bad way but in the sense that you can lay with this album and let yourself feel the message of each song. Every song has a different intensity to it, and this intensity is held throughout the entire album never losing its momentum. It’s crazy to think that Hana Vu is the same age as me, her music makes me feel like I’ve lived so many lives. I absolutely LOVE every single song off this album. I think each song has a different feeling it offers to its listeners. But my absolute favorite has got to be number twelve, Maker. There’s a quote from Hana Vu that I think perfectly ties in with this song, albeit not religious she states, “but when writing these songs, I imagine a sort of desolate character crying out to an ultimately punitive force for something more.” Each song is like a stage of grief, of unwinding the makings of yourself one painstaking wire at a time. And it ends on the existential crisis of identity, and the want for something different. Something that is better than what you are now, the feeling of staring at the birds flying overhead and wishing you could be as free.

you can find Public Storage at hanavu.bandcamp.com



Yasmin Nur - Punch Me! This Is A Nightmare!

by Victoria Ponce

Yasmin Nur is a small artist from Wichita, Kansas. Through her recent album *Punch Me! This is a Nightmare!* we see the 90's alt rock influence with a newer feel to it. Electrifying and energizing, each song is strong in its overall rendition. This album contains only five songs, and the way this album makes you feel you wish there were more. But, ultimately, we get five masterfully crafted pieces of art. You can tell that Nur's entire heart is in this EP.



My favorite songs off this album are *I Wanna Throw Up*, *Flowers in my Garden*, and *Driving in my Car*. We kick off the discography with a strong contender. *I Wanna Throw Up* introduces us to the overall feel of the album. Very powerful, this song is about Yasmin's [eating disorder]. She wanted to approach her own personal struggles in a happy and upbeat way. She says, "I find when I have to deal with that kind of thing, if I just smile and I'm more positive about it, it helps a lot more."

The third song off the album is *Flowers in my Garden*, at first glance you might think this song is about a romantic partnership, but this song is actually about growing up. According to Spire Magazine and Yasmin Nur, "-that song is kind of just about growing older and losing your girlfriends and how as you get older, it's really hard to keep genuine friendships," she further states, "I think a lot of people think that song is about a boy or something romantic, but it's not. It's just about getting older and being a girl, it's harder to keep genuine friends the older you get." Wrapping up the EP is *Driving in my Car*. This song ends the album on a good note, with the message of unconditional love. Platonic or romantic, this song is about, "-how no matter how crazy you are, people in your life will still love you." Every song in this album is an amazing anthem to different events in life as a female/female-presenting individual. Artists being able to turn their own struggles into music that makes people feel less alone in these universal but not talked about demons is something truly amazing. A song from

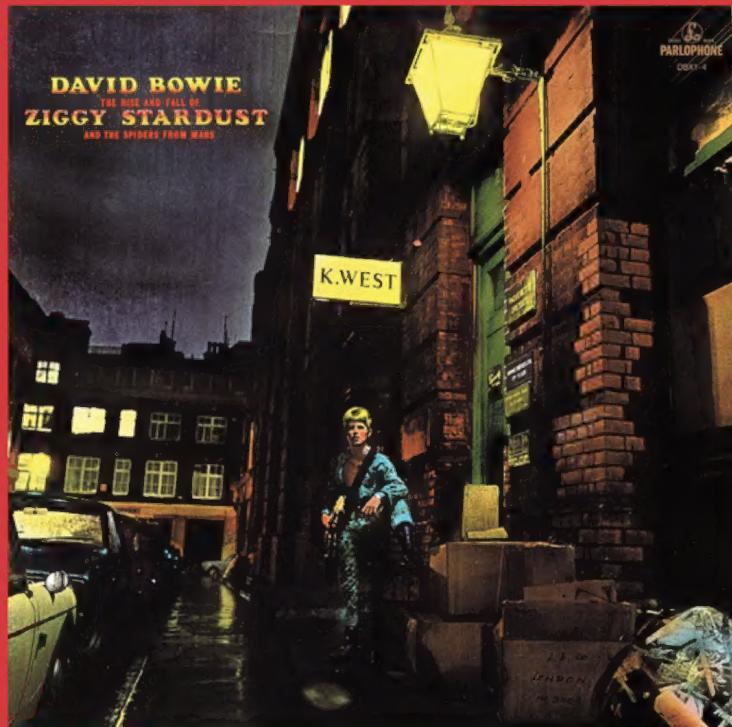
Yasmin I would like for you to also check out is her single, *My Favorite T-Shirt*. This song very much resonates with me and if you also struggle with being comfortable in your skin, and the struggle of how it impacts your relationships this is the song for you. Ultimately, remember that you aren't alone, we all deal with things that may be more common than we might think, these conversations start with destigmatization.



★ STAR MAN AT FIFTY ★

★ *By Elizabeth De Los Santos* ★

Fifty years ago, on June 16, 1972, David Bowie Released 'The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars'. The concept album tells the story of Ziggy, an omnosexual-space-alien-rockstar who has been sent by the "Starmen", along with his bandmates, the Spiders From Mars, to share a message with the people of earth. In the story, the earth is at the end of its existence, with only "Five Years" remaining before all of its resources deplete. The message Ziggy shares with the people of earth is overall about peace, love, and rock n' roll, but there is a second message shared with the listener. In songs like "Star", "Hang on to Yourself", "Ziggy Stardust," and "Suffragette City", Ziggy struggles with aspects of stardom that are alluded to as groupies, angry bandmates, drugs, and ego. The last track of the album, "Rock n' Roll Suicide", shows how Ziggy's fame and hedonistic lifestyle ultimately lead to his death, with Ziggy being destroyed on stage by his fans. The duality of Ziggy as a prophet of hope and a decadent rockstar creates a character who is the epitome of rock n' roll. Ironically, Ziggy's popularity in the fictional story mirrored real life, leading to Bowie officially retiring the persona in 1973.



I didn't discover David Bowie's music until 2016, after his death, when his album 'Blackstar' gained a lot of attention and deservedly won a grammy. I was immediately bewitched by his musical expression and his genius ability to change and morph with the times. He took his job seriously and had an intensity in his approach to music, which is exemplified in the 10-day recording process

it took for Bowie and his band to make 'The Rise and Fall of Ziggy'. Bowie's co-producer on the album explained the reasoning for the quick recording process by Bowie and his bandmates: "They had to get the tracks fairly quickly because David gets bored. . . If it took more than three or four takes, he'd want to move on. . . David was the most amazing singer I've worked with; 95 percent of the vocals on the four albums I did with him as producer, they were first takes." Bowie was a true professional in a career often viewed as play.

Although people questioned him, as they do most artists, Bowie's decision

to retire Ziggy proved his mastery in timing, allowing the character to live on and be heralded as one of his best personas. It is easy to understand the importance of beginnings, as it is easy to take the artistic process casually, but Bowie understood what not many artists do. Bowie understood the importance of endings. With his keen sense of the zeitgeist and of his legacy, he knew when to create a persona and when to end one, which is precisely why Ziggy lives on fifty years later, still teaching and inspiring us.



dolly parton: here & back in 50 years

By Skylar Fletcher

We all know the greatness that is Mrs. Dolly Parton, but did you know that she released an album on March 6th, 1972, and March 4th, 2022? 50 years apart, almost to the exact day?

Her album "Touch Your Woman" was her 9th solo album and this album takes me back home to growing up in a small country town. This album is a traditional country album through and through, the album songs tell a story as it goes along.

"Touch Your Woman" starts off strong with "Will he be waiting," this song is about a woman that leaves her man and then lives to regret it and as she goes back to him, she hopes he will be there waiting for her. "The greatest days of all" is the second song on her album and it introduces imagery with the very first lyrics "A dirt dobber built its nest, On my only Sunday dress" from then on the imagery continues on throughout the entire album. But my favorite song on the album is "Second best," it is the perfect country heartbreak song. Mrs. Parton talks about how she will always be second best and the song relates to me in a way that no 2022 country song has. I do believe that album could have ended on a stronger note, but the great start "Touch Your Woman" had makes up for it.

Dolly's 2022 album "Run Rose Run" is also a book that she wrote titled by the same name and this is her 48th solo album! While I haven't read the book (and probably won't) this album does feel like it would go well with a book. It is a completely different sound than that of her 1972 album, "Run Rose Run" feels more like country bluegrass than the traditional country sound of her 1972 album. It feels like Mrs. Parton enjoyed the recording of this album, but I can say "Run Rose Run" isn't something I could just let play on repeat. It has the traditional Dolly Parton lyrics with different music than I am used to hearing from her. "Run Rose Run" starts off with a catchy song titled "Run," but then we kind of lose the Dolly we all know. The album doesn't tell as much of a story as her past albums, but it does feel like it was written with different

characters in mind which probably has to do with the book of the same name. My favorite song from this album was "Love or Lust," the very last song on this album. I think this was an absolute beautiful ballad to end with, this song (for me) made up for the kind of slow middle that it had. While the song isn't Dolly's best, I believe she sang well with Richard Dennison and that this album ended better than "Touch Your Woman."

If I had to pick a favorite out of these two Dolly albums, it would be "Touch Your Woman" because of the great story telling and traditional Dolly sound that I love. But Dolly is the only artist that I could find that released two albums 50 years apart, so I will give credit where credit is due because no one is doing it like Dolly.



THE SURREALITY OF DREAM POP, LIVE



Beach House's Once Twice Melody Tour Arrives in Houston

by Shea Kissell

I stood directly in the middle of The House of Blues, a humble venue covered from floor to ceiling with dark, creaky wood. It was a small, hidden pocket in the overwhelming metropolis of Houston. The friendly crowd of a couple hundred people were packed tightly in front of a stage littered with various equipment and instruments. As the bustling sounds of conversations dimmed along with the lights, the opening act began.

Ami Dang performed a set of traditional Indian sitar blended with rich, wavy synths. Her booming lyrics seemed to infuse with the lingering smoke that filled the room, and captured a sense of kaleidoscopic enchantment. At the very least, it set the mood just right for what was to come.

After another hour of setup, the duo Victoria LeGrand and Alex Scally, accompanied on their tour by drummer James Barone, emerged from the curtains enclosing the backside of the stage and wasted no time kicking off their show with Once Twice Melody's titular intro song. Throughout the next hour and a half, they performed a mix of new hits off their latest release, and classics from past masterpieces. Their sound pierced through the cloud that had materialized from the crowd in front of me like an explosive solar flare. Scally's slippery guitar riffs pulled me off the ground and into a soft sky, where I was met by LeGrand's heavenly vocals.

The dynamic the band share is the perfect definition of dream-pop. It's beautiful and comforting, but mysterious and incomprehensible. No words I can conjure can match its magic. To experience Beach House is to be encompassed by a warm, endless, starry night. While Scally was rearranging pedals in between songs, LeGrand would occasionally pass the

time with comments that were as detached-but-poetic as her lyrics ("you guys look so soft, like a big pillow") which only contributed to the unreal atmosphere.



WHEN YOU WERE MINE



Their silhouettes contrasted with the subdued colors being projected from behind them. Visuals of flying sparks and racing bubbles accompanied their eruptive songs of mirthful ecstasy. The crowd and band became one when they performed *Take Care* off of *Teen Dream*, as an array of spinning spotlights shooting out from behind LeGrand encircled the whole house, and her ringing vocals were accompanied by almost the entire audience. We all shared equal enthusiasm when the opening synths of *Space Song*, Beach House's most-listened-to song, were heard. Almost immediately dozens of phones were raised within the crowd in an attempt to capture a fraction of the majesty of the performance.

The last song of the performance, *Myth from Bloom*, is a personal favorite of mine. The opus is built off a zooming guitar progression crafted by Scally that carries LeGrand's echoing voice into cosmic heights. It encapsulates the character of Beach House: an aggressive, intense, even desperate method of revealing the true beauty of sound.

Although I noticed no major differences in most of the songs performed live compared to their recorded counterparts, to see Beach House in person is to be taken on an individual journey through a nebula of uplifting chords and poetic lyrics, ghostly delivered while surrounded by others who share the same love for the experience.

WE FELL ACROSS THE SKY



GOATROAST

the best texas music festival
you've never heard of

by emily regian

"Happy Birthday Billy Jack!" is the statement that started the inspiration for GoatRoast, a birthday music festival set up by Billy Jack himself and his family. So why is this birthday music festival called "GoatRoast"? Is there an actual goat roast? The answer is no, there is no actual goat, however, there was. When Goatroast first started there was going to be a goat to be roasted

and eaten, however, the original group of high school buddies who were planning for the GoatRoast looked at the goat as a pet and couldn't bring themselves to kill it and eat it, so the goat lived... until it got attacked by a dog. So even though there really is no goat, the name stuck!

GoatRoast was formally established in 1999, even though there was an informal goat roast a year before, so this next March will be the 25th year of GoatRoast! Even though GoatRoast is a birthday bash it is also a weekend full of camping with friends at Mt. Gainor, Texas, and music of all kinds! Music ranges from heavy metal to country to even parody music and so much more. A lot of the time the musicians are friends of Billy Jack's from as far back as elementary school to high school, however, there are also some bands that take a break from their tour and play some music for the festival. The bands and singers that we were lucky to experience this year include "Exotic Plague", "Wes Riddles", "Cashdraw", "Electric Mullet", "Sudden Deaf", "Beard Haver", "Mike Dillon's PUNKADELICK", "Taylor Stephens", "Modern Day Slaves", "Tim Delaney", "Stardust Vinyl", "Lost Millions", "Honkytonk", "Freebleeder", "Chicken Shift", "Hen and the Cocks", "Sabbath Crow", and the "Wee-Beasties". Which all rocked Mt. Gainor, Texas, for two whole days.

Since the music festival is on private property where only people who are invited can be there, it was a unique experience to be able to hang out and talk to many of the bands before and after their performances. I personally got to hang out with "Wes Riddles", "Freebleeder", "Hen and the Cocks", and the "Wee-Beasties". Let me tell you, most of these bands are absolutely wild! The "Wee-Beasties" are probably some of the craziest people I know in the best way possible, their punk rock band consists of about ten people and usually by the end of the show they're in their underwear. The "Wee-Beasties" were established in the year 2000 in Denton, Texas where lead singer Richard Haskins created a unique sound with the inclusion of a brass section which is uncommonly seen in the punk rock genre. When Richard was asked why he started the "Wee-Beasties" he explained that, "well, I didn't have a good family life growing up so I went out and found one with my music". I think that is an important message for all music lovers, a way to connect us to each other. The



billy jack himself on the drums

“Wee-Beasties” is also very unique in the fact that they have a member, Johnny Weir, who has been blind for about 15 years of his life and plays the trumpet for the band currently. It was also very special to be able to hang out with the band after their performance on the second day of the festival before they left the next day to continue their tour. I highly recommend seeing the “Wee-Beasties”, more than once I might add, if they’re in your area. It’s a show that will be stained in your memory, for better or worse, that’s for you to find out.

Another Denton, Texas band, “Hen and the Cocks” was another band that surely left an impression, from songs about consent to equality, lead singer JoAnn Henkel, puts on a show entirely separate from her band. JoAnn has wonderful showmanship and interacts with the crowd by jumping off stage and roaming around the crowd while singing and dancing. “Hen and the Cocks” leave you on your toes as to what genre of music you’ll be hearing. Their music can range from metal to punk to even licks of “disco” as JoAnn describes. I couldn’t help but feel a little bit of girl power when watching the “Hen and the Cocks” performance, they truly rock and inspire me to become a better musician myself.

“Freebleeder” is a punk rock and metal band from Austin, Texas, consisting of lead singer and guitarist Jon Millican, bass guitarist Chris Foster, Drummer Matthew Coleman, and Guitarist Jonathan Palmer. They are a GoatRoast regular and have been performing at GoatRoast for many years. It was nice to see them this year and actually get to talk to them. One of the members actually grew up in the BCS area and we bonded over Texas A&M and College Station. Their performance is one that you definitely do not want to miss, they are completely talented in many different ways from creating comic books to rocking on stage.

Wes Riddles, another musician from Austin, is a solo singer and guitarist who would sometimes play the guitar with some of the other bands which would embrace the GoatRoast stage. After talking to Wes personally you can tell he is a very zen and laid back person, even trying to meditate while heavy metal was playing on the stage. His music is just like his personality, chill and down to earth. If you get the chance to see him around Austin, stop and say howdy, and you’ll make a new friend.

Overall, GoatRoast is something that I look forward to every single year and the moment the weekend is over, I can’t wait for the next one. It is a weekend full of music, family and friends, and unforgettable memories. I have been going to GoatRoast since I was a “baby goat”, as they call us youth, and it has been neat to see how my father’s friendship with Billy Jack and their other Brownwood childhood friends never seems to get lost in the years. Every year at GoatRoast they all come together like they haven’t missed a single day in each other’s lives. GoatRoast is unlike any other Texas music festival that you will see, the difference is how something as simple as a birthday party can turn into lifelong friendship for generations to come, all brought together by the love of music.



Hen and the Cocks performing on stage

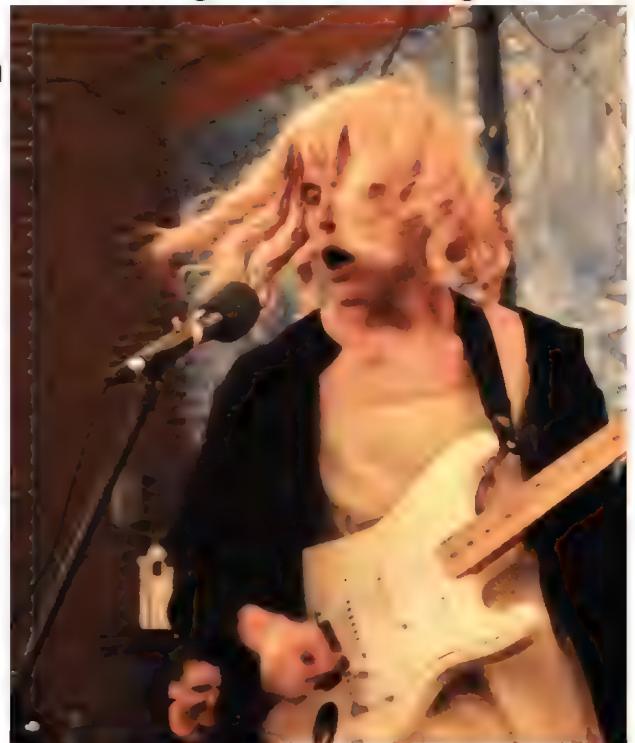


by gwen howerton

I think LOUD!FEST 2018 was the first concert that ever made me feel something. Crammed into the tiny venue space of Revolution Bar and Cafe; moshing with a hundred other sweaty strangers and my best friend, I felt awash in the hardcore punk blasting from the band right in front of me. I had so many experiences like this in downtown Bryan, right here in Aggieland. Most students assume there's nothing to do in Bryan-College Station (outside of northgate), and they're not entirely wrong. I've lived in College Station since I was 5, and I was certain there was nothing to do.

Everything changed my freshman year, when I made the decision to stay in town and go to Texas A&M. My best friend Hope invited me to Loudfest 2018 - a three-day punk, hardcore, and metal music festival that happened every year in Downtown Bryan at Revolution Bar and the Grand Stafford Theater. 5 dollars got you access to over 50 amazing bands ranging from hardcore punk, shoegaze, indie rock, metal, thrash, and more. Having spent most of my teen years raging in the suburbs of south College Station, I couldn't believe my eyes. I had craved this imperfect, bloody knuckles, rough-around-the-edges alternative scene, and I thought I had to leave town or even the state to find it - yet here it was, right in my backyard.

I discovered that there was a small but vibrant punk scene that had been thriving here since the early 2000s. There was this local zine called 979represent, that focused on the underground music scene and going ons in the BCS community. I started going to shows at Rev's and the Grand Stafford when I could, and I made sure that LOUD!FEST was always on my calendar when the end of the semester would come around. I smoked some of my first cigarettes, learned to write poetry, and found my voice as a transgender woman in small-town Texas. When I joined KANM, I was so happy to see that people there knew about the scene in Bryan - we hosted Save the Music, our fundraiser concert, at Revs in 2018 and 2019. It was the first

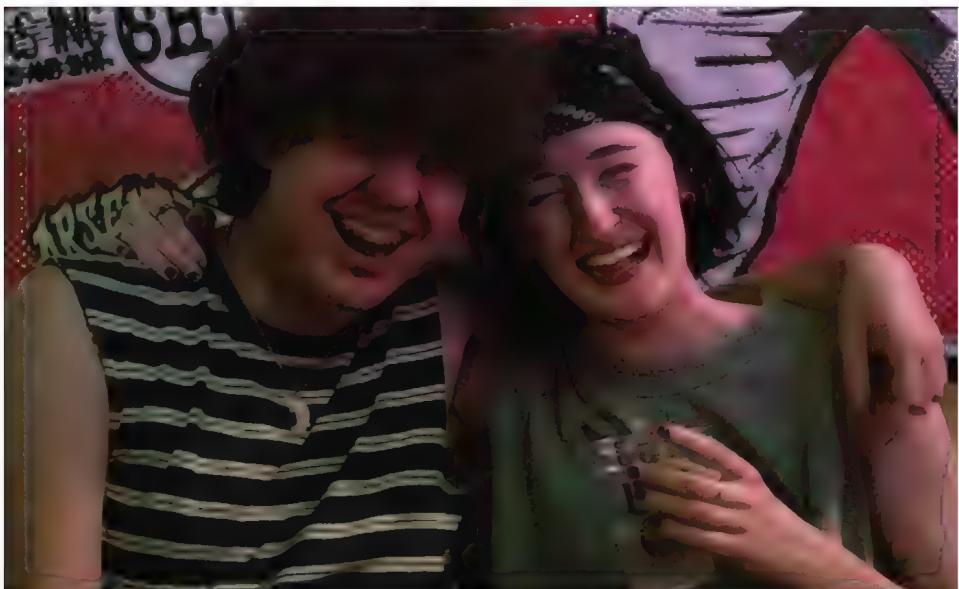


alice gas playing at save the music 2018

Save the Music I ever attended (and I can't believe how few people were there!).

LOUD!FEST 2019 continued my love of the scene, and I got to see incredible bands like ASS, From Parts Unknown and Sykotic Tendencies, play at the Grand Stafford and Rev's. For the first time in my life, I could tell people that no, BCS is not the boring backwater that you think it is. Once upon a time, Texas A&M and BCS were host to many music legends: Johnny Cash in 1965, who played for students off-campus, Elvis in the 50s when he played for the Corps, Nat King Cole, Garth Brooks, and more. Punk acts like The Ramones and Fugazi, as well as rock bands like R.E.M and Green Day all, played on campus or on Northgate in decades past. While that's no more, and Northgate is a country music stronghold, there are things to do in BCS if you look beyond the confines of University and Texas Avenue.

All good things have to come to an end eventually; COVID-19 upended the local scene. Rev's, which had already struggled with closure due to renovations, closed down in 2020, unlikely to ever reopen (knock on wood?). 979Represent closed shop at the end of 2021, with many of its founders moving on to other projects or out of state completely. LOUD!FEST has been canceled for the past two years due to COVID, although I have hope that in May 2022 it will make a triumphant return. Nothing good can last forever, but I've always believed that the end of one era ushers in the coming of another. The punk scene that raged on for over 10 years is far from dead; many of the regulars of Revs live on at the 101, a bigger and cooler space founded by a former 979Represent writer. After the worst of the pandemic, KANM started hosting Save the Music again at The 101; where STM 2018 had maybe 50 total people show up, STM 2021 and 2022 had over 300 people. Not only is the scene alive and well, but it is strong. My hope and goal as the PR director of KANM is to support the local scene here, to build off of the success of the elder punks, emos, and weirdos who came before me. To show the bands that I spent my early college years moshing to the same love their music and culture showed me. To give all the misfits in BCS a place to call home, just like the scene here gave me that same warm welcome. Next time you think there's nothing to do in BCS, take Texas Avenue past the part of town that you recognize, past the part that makes you feel safe in corporate suburbia, and rejoice.



gwen & lillie at save the music 2019

Thank you to everyone who was a part of the scene; to all the Revs regulars whose names I never learned. To Hope Lascurain - even though we don't hang out that much anymore, I'll always love and cherish our friendship. You taught me to be my truest self and how to let loose. Thank you to the early KANM members who welcomed me into student radio - Cameron, Eren, Lillie, and the rest of you: I have no clue where I'd be without ya'll. To my current KANM friends, to Paige, Deja, Lillie, Harmon, Julia, Nathan, and everyone else: Thank you for being the best friends I have ever had. Thank you to 101 for carrying on the legacy of the local scene, and for putting on fucking awesome shows every year.

My 2010's Pop Punk History By Ruth Lane

You may say this is a specific time frame, but this is when I personally found pop punk and when the sound changed from classic 2000's punk. Back then, pop punk was more on the pop side and had a lighter energy to it. It had sort of a boy band feel, but we all loved it and still do. I honestly think that without this season of pop punk, I wouldn't have enjoyed the oldies like I do now. Pop punk festivals tend to involve the old and new bands. If you told me back in 2010 that I would be going to punk shows, I wouldn't believe you.

I had a buddy who always talked about this genre make me a playlist in 2015 he deemed, "Ruth Goes Pop Punk." I guess you could say I was late to the game! When I first heard some of these songs, I thought they were too heavy and not my style. Then, I kept listening to more bands and found the songs and bands that I love today and even seen live. Here are some of my favorite bands of the 2010's pop punk scene.

REAL FRIENDS

This was one of the first bands I liked. The lyrics were so emotional and sometimes too sad boi for me, but I realized that was their art. Another buddy of mine told me that their lyrics "sleepy eyes and bony knees", which is heard in many songs, refers to the bassist who dealt with a hard time with depression. The song "I've Given Up on You", became my favorite song when I needed a good cry. The acoustics and songwriting here sum up the perfect feelings for heartbreak. In 2020, they broke up after singer, Dan, decided to take a different path. They surprised me after I thought they were done with a comeback in 2021 including new front man, Cody. Their new sound is super similar to old stuff, but with Cody's light and melodic tones. One of their sayings is "Wow, what a great day", and that was one indeed.

THE STORY SO FAR

I think it took me a little while to really love this band. The singer, Parker, has this unique way to his vocals where he seems to be screaming, but it's also so clear and singsong. One of my favorites, "Nerve", has a great beat behind it and the drummer keeps up so well with the slight changes in rhythm throughout. I hear this song and feel it's about trying to get over someone by filling the void with other people or things and that same person shows up around you and ruins your progress. That sounds kind of heavy, but I promise you won't leave disappointed after listening. It will give you the push you need to get through what you're dealing with. My favorite line in any of their songs is in "Clairvoyant", another song I listen to when I need to let it all out. "Don't paint me black when I used to be golden", is so powerful and full of angsty truth. This is what you say when you're angry and remembering you're worth it.

KNUCKLE PUCK

This band was another one of the earlier bands I found in my pop punk journey. Actually, I still have a shirt signed by most of the members! The difference here is that the singer, Joe, has a lighter voice that doesn't hit you as hard as other punk singers and whenever he gets gruff it matches the gruffness of the instruments. A lot of their lyrics have to do with the thoughts in our head and what we do with them. In "No Good", there's a line that says, "every word she said, like knives in the back of my head." And in "But Why Would You Care?" he says, "home alone where all of my doubts are born." Lyrics like these remind us we can't stay alone when times get hard. We need a strong group of people we can go to when we're going through something.

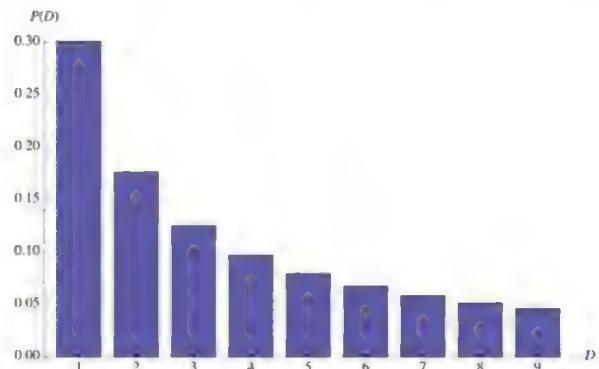


Pop punk sometimes feels too depressing to listen to at times. There are just as many happy, upbeat songs as slow and emotional. The whole point of what these songwriters do is help listeners get through the process of change and healing. If you've never given it a try, I challenge you to let this wonderful genre change your mind like it did for me.

DATA SCIENCE WITH A LITTLE LOGIC

DATA ENTHUSIASTIC OR LOGIC ENTHUSIAST?

I bet you're wondering what that is? Normally, I couldn't tell you, but I am proud to say this time around I can. That is Benford's Law. It is known as the first digit law and can be applied to pretty much anything, but more importantly, it always reveals fraud. The first digit law was initially discovered by Simon Newcomb in 1881, who noticed a pattern in logarithm tables, however Frank Benford, who published a paper on the digit phenomenon, ended up becoming the namesake (Gonsalves, 2020). Benford's Law can expose if an image has been tampered with (Bonettini et al., 2021), if a social media account is a bot (Mbona & Eloff, 2021), it can even distinguish human speech from synthetic speech (Hsu & Berisha, 2022). If you take any man-made and naturally occurring dataset, it will always follow Benford's Law unless it's a fake. But how? How does this work? So, basically Benford's law states that within listings, datasets, or any naturally occurring sets of numbers, the digit 1 will occur as the leading number with probability $\sim 30\%$ (Weisstein, 2022). The digit 2 occurs $\sim 17\%$ and the digit 3 $\sim 12\%$, all the way up to 9 which occurs as the first digit $\sim 5\%$ of the time (Weisstein, 2022). The law creates a curve that looks like this:



I know it seems crazy that every naturally occurring dataset will reproduce this curve, but it's true. Nearly everything fits tidily into this formula: the lengths of various rivers, sizes of volcanoes, cancer rates, even the length between your heartbeats before you go into cardiac arrest follow Benford's Law (Seenivasan et al., 2016). Nevertheless, there are some exceptions.

If numbers are not naturally occurring and assigned (like social security numbers or zip codes), they will not follow the law (Glenn, 2020). Benford's Law also cannot be used to detect fraud in voting systems. Though it has been applied to the previous two presidential elections and has been used by many social media users to cite fraud in both, political scientist Walter Mebane has found the numerical law to be too sensitive, therefore inaccurately detects fraud in voter counts. According to Mebane, if a person does not vote for their first -choice candidate, for whatever reason, their vote will not fit into the Benford's Law curve and show up as fraud (Mebane, 2006).

So what is so great and relevant about Benford's Law now? Sure, it's been used to detect financial fraud, but how is it useful now? With technology progressing and the line between real and fake becoming even more blurred, it's become a necessity to have a tool to distinguish the difference. Researchers who have found ways to apply Benford's Law to expose elusive social media bots, deep fake videos, and GAN (generative adversarial network) images are working to save us from the dangerous influence fake media can have on us.

Since the late 19th century, Benford's Law has been applied to a multitude of different fields and datasets. We are continuously reminded by this fascinating numerical phenomenon that all-natural life fits strangely and tidily into a pattern of numbers. For what reason do the laws of the universe have a tendency toward the number 1 rather than the number 9? I do not know, and it is truly uncanny. Similarly, the revealing nature of Benford's Law is as helpful as it is bizarre. It is our guide to the fraudulent, the simulated, the unnatural, and inhuman, but ultimately, Benford's Law acts as our guide to the truth.

Editors Note: Sources are all in that image to the right, trust us :)



Meditations from a Dying World

This article will be bad for you. Not in the same way that a slice of cake might be, or smoking a pack a day, or even in the literary sense of a tabloid or penny dreadful. This article will be nothing more than a look into the banal thoughts of a person living in a dying world. It was written by a talentless hack who couldn't even be bothered to hire a ghostwriter, a courtesy most authors worth their salt give their readers these days. Luckily, there's a skill readers have that can alleviate this situation, quite literally the easiest thing readers can do: **stop reading.**

Literacy is a curse, allowing thoughts to jump into your mind simply because letters are presented before your eyes in a string. But it's possible to stop. You could go take a walk and meditate on your own life instead of being spoon fed the thoughts of another. Then again, this wouldn't be such a god damn lucrative industry if people didn't have the hots for tapping someone else's brain. Maybe I'm fighting a losing battle, but that's been my entire life and, if you're reading this, probably yours too.

I've always skipped prefaces and introductions in half the things I read (especially if they're not written by the author, why the fuck do I want someone else's thoughts spoiling my intimate mind reading session?) (another editor note I also skipped over the preface and introduction), so I'll keep this mercifully short for your sake. Then again, it probably takes a certain masochism to wallow this far into the trash heap, so maybe you wanted a longer introduction in the first place. Tough luck.

Part 1: Getting Your Pointless Thoughts Published

At the time of writing this, I firmly believed the things I was writing would only ever be read by me. That makes the fact that you're reading this now a complete fucking miracle (if you even are, and I'm not still trapped in an ontological time loop of reading my own thoughts). But maybe I shouldn't be that surprised, it's not too hard to get published in **SOMETHING** if you try hard enough. Even getting published and sold in bookstores isn't a sweat anymore. Really all it takes to get published these days is...

1. A little connection or two

...because that's all life is in our complicated "end-of-history" paradise. How else do you explain the millionth self-help book being churned out as a "Barnes and Noble Bestseller!" that a wino mom buys her 20-something kid (who proceeds to put it on the coffee table and never cracks it open once) littering the shelves of your used book store?



2. A mediocre genre fiction plot which thinly veils a geopolitical goal

I'm sure some agency is gonna love to publish your book about a time traveling caveman so long as it ends with the moral that US hegemony will live forever ("Grug stood by George Bush Jr. and declared, for freedom loving individuals everywhere, from the Modern World to the Stone World, a mission accomplished!").

3. Being a talking head or elected official

It's laughably simple for you to make your already easy life even easier by shitting out a (probably ghostwritten) memoir every two years, to be hastily scooped up by every two-bit voter selling their lives to your side of the aisle.

But if you're like me, with no connections and no special desire to push a talking point (although if it involved me getting a fat check I'd be the CIA's dancing bear til the end of time), your situation is different. In this case, your great American novel or treatise of our times will live a disgusting festering life in limbo, being occasionally read by loved ones and friends that insist you ought to take it to a publisher after glossing over two pages, really hoping to escape the situation without making next week's brunch more awkward than it will inevitably be.

Bonus points awarded (for those keeping score at home) for writing it completely stream of consciousness without any sort of rewriting whatsoever. That'll be sure to win over the hearts of the conglomerate you're desperately imploring to parade your brainchild through every coffee shop and public library east of the Mississippi, who want nothing more than for you to succeed with your fucked up pet project. That bastard child will look good sandwiched between Dan Crenshaw's 50th political treatise and the latest and greatest edition of "freaking unpack your life y'all!" Kudos to you.

Part 2: Why We Ignore Other People

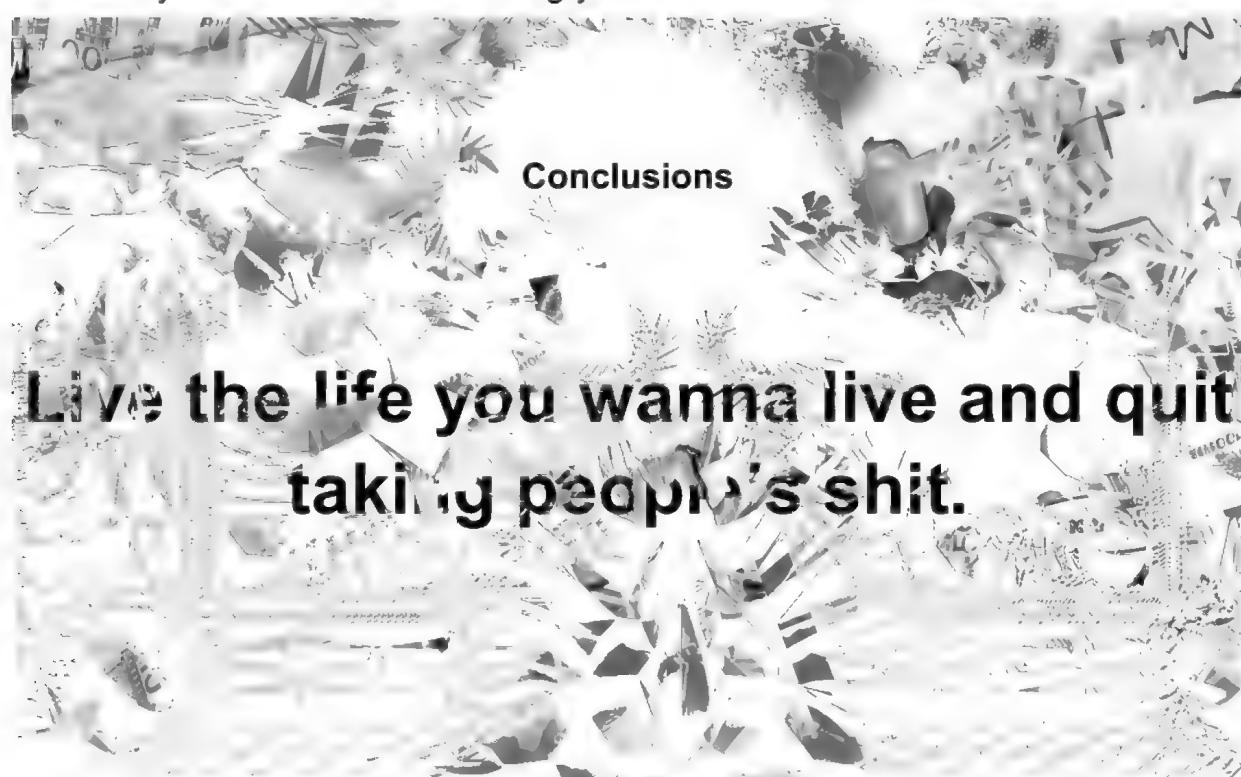
There was a time (referred to by professionals as "most of human existence") where social bonds were a matter of life or death. You either hit the limit of Dunbar's number like you were topping off your tank at the gas station, or you were screwed (except in case of famine and drought, then you're screwed no matter what). No longer, for it is completely possible in a rich developed nation to live your entire life beginning to end without a single meaningful social relationship outside of your immediate family. I can only hope most people get a little more than that (a college drinking buddy is a good booby prize, at least), but the sheer loneliness that permeates us manifests in how we treat others in public. I'm sure most people have sat at a bus station, airport terminal, or in line at the supermarket and wondered what the other people's lives were like, and just why we all mutually signed a silent contract to pretend they aren't there.

But a moment's pondering is all we get, and the only communication permitted to most is to talk to the clerk at the desk, who most treat like a robot more than a fellow community member or even (god-forbid) a human being. But a moment's pondering is all we get, and the only communication permitted to most is to talk to the clerk at the desk, who most treat like a robot more than a fellow community member or even (god-forbid) a human being.

Why do we put ourselves into such self-exile? Even in social events (our own little forced attempts to make friends) anxiety permeates all interactions (to be alleviated when Greg comes by with the PBR). Are we floundering without the fear of death? Is that the push needed to strike up a conversation with someone while you wait an eternity in line at the DMV? Maybe every public place needs a guy with a sharp stick whose job is to chase and poke you if you don't say hi to the person next to you (exceptions made for clinical anxiety, I'm not looking for an ADA case). Maybe it's the autism talking, but we're such fickle and complex creatures. Obviously there's a time and place I wouldn't want people approaching me for a conversation in public, but there's an equal number of times it might have dragged me out of a bad mood faster than any pill.

The worst part, to me, is how visceral supposed comrades often are. To get excommunicated from your social circle used to require something drastic. Now it feels like you slip up once or twice in a conversation or social media post, and you're literally a fucking demon. Call it cancel culture, call it paranoia, whatever it is, it's mind numbingly taxing. I really do hope it's just an adaptation of a primordial urge in humans and not a new social ennui. If it's an "old-product, new-package" deal, at least we can adapt with it.

What's the conclusion to draw here? Find someone you like to shoot the shit with and take it from there. Seek it out online, if you have to, although be careful. Online friendships are like a social tourniquet- a safety measure in the short term that can fuck you up in the long run. And if you thought people cutting ties over petty bullshit was bad, wait until you see how quick they do it when they don't have to risk seeing you at the office or in class.



Conclusions

Live the life you wanna live and quit taking people's shit.

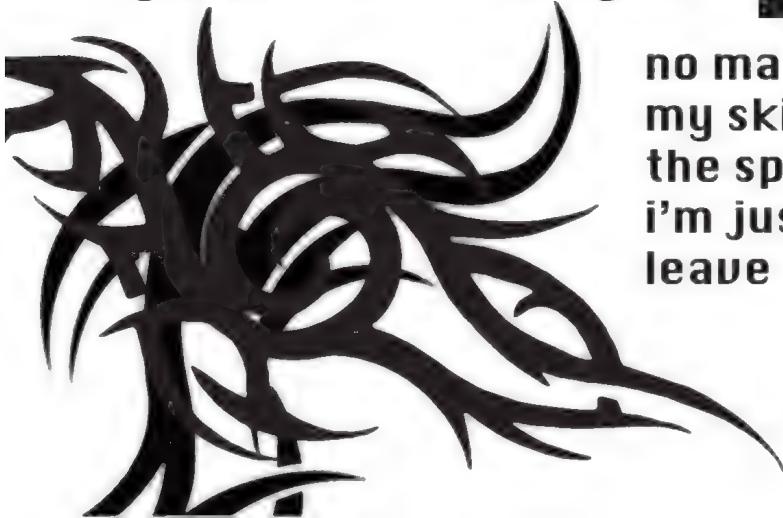
QUOTATIONS FOR CONTEMPLATION

By Jordyn Gonzales

i want you to have all of me but im
afraid im not worth having
like a craigslist couch with piss stains
or a geriatric cat full of fleas
the work to get me proper
outweighs how you'll be pleased



i did try to get cleaned up
when i knew you were
coming in
then you left and i got
weaker
got all muddied up again



no matter how much i scrub
my skin can break and bleed
the spots will always show
i'm just jealous you get to
leave

DJ GWENDY'S BAR POWER HOUR

by Gwen Howerton

Before I divulge my culinary secrets too much, I'd like to acknowledge a few people who have inspired me in my adventures in tending bar (AKA making a drink for myself at 9:30 P.M. on a Tuesday night). First and foremost, I'd like to thank Cameron Armand for introducing me to gin and tonics, the thinking man's drink. Special thanks to the bartenders at the 101 in Downtown Bryan for making one mean whiskey sour, which I've lovingly dubbed "Gwen's Delight". Thank you to my roommates Harmon, Deja, and Lillie for trying out my silly little concoctions. Thank you to my parents for teaching me to enjoy alcohol responsibly, and thank you to that Coors Light commercial they used to play on TV all the time in the mid 2000s with the giant Coors Light Train with the song "Love Train" playing in the background. That was so awesome to 6-year-old-me. Without further ado, let's get to the recipes.



Pictured: Gwen Howerton

Gwen and Tonic

A gin and tonic (or a Gwen and Tonic as I like to call them) is a refined cocktail that can be enjoyed in almost any setting. At a party and need a break from PBR and Trulys? A gin and tonic can be made really easily with ingredients most people have on hand or are found easily at a nearby liquor store. Having a rough week even though its only Tuesday? Gin and tonic is beautiful because it can be as strong or weak as you desire, making it great for those midterm blues or just for watching a film with friends. I find gin and tonics to taste about the same as a Sprite with a little bit of an added kick. Simple and elegant, Gin and Tonics are one of my go-to drinks.

Preparation:

1. Cut a lime into quarters
2. Fill a short glass with ice and pour gin to desired strength
3. Fill remaining glass with tonic water and stir gently (I like to use the knife I cut the limes with for added danger)

a. Think fond thoughts of Gwen while you stir to make this simple drink into its regional variant,

Gwen and Tonic

4. Garnish with lime and enjoy!



TOSTADAS WITH CHIPS AND SALSA

by Alan and Jimena Garcia

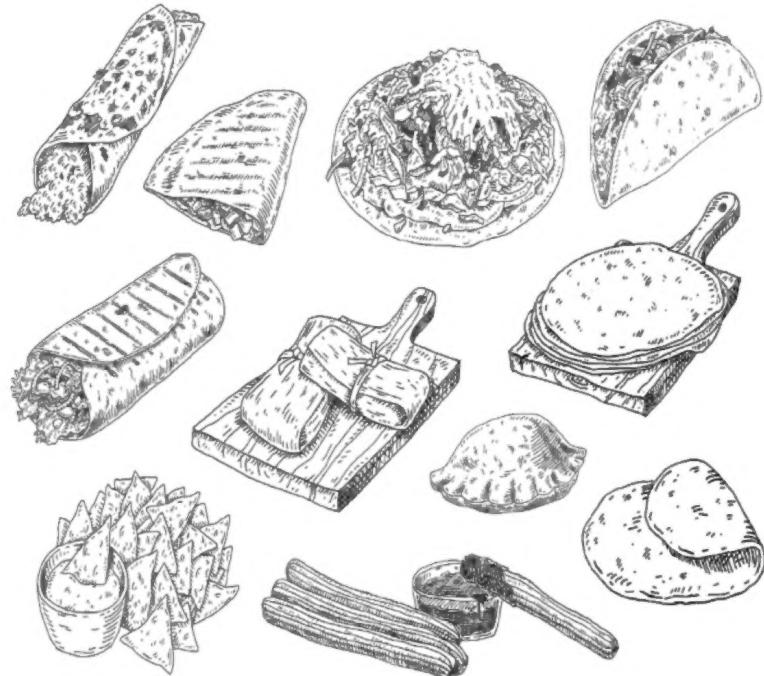
Growing up, our Mexican culture was always prevalent in our home. Now, living on our own has us yearning for the comfort of our mother's music during long car rides and the smell of her cooking after a long day at school. We already share the nostalgic music from our youth on our show and now we'd like to share a dish that has been a staple in our home and we hope you'll enjoy it as much as we have. Gracias Mami por todo tu apoyo y ayuda con nuestro programa y en todo lo demás. Te amamos <3

-Alan and Jimena Garcia from Chips and Salsa*

*Tune in to KANM.org Wednesdays at 9am for Chips & Salsa, the best Latin American radio show in Aggieland

Mexican Tostadas

10 corn tortilla tostadas
16 oz. lean ground beef
1 Tbsp. taco seasoning
½ tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. salta
½ yellow onion, diced
10 oz. refried beans
2 cups iceberg lettuce, chopped
½ cup queso fresco, crumbled
1 cup tomatoes, chopped
1 avocado, diced
1 cup of your favorite salsa



Cook the ground beef in a skillet over medium-low heat and break it apart with your spatula. Season with the taco seasoning, garlic powder, and salt. Add the diced onion and cook until the onion is translucent and the beef is fully cooked.

Reheat the refried beans in a pan over medium-low heat.

To assemble: top each tostada with refried beans, ground beef, lettuce, tomatoes, avocado and salsa. Sprinkle on some cheese. Serve right away.

Makes 10 tostadas

SAVE THE MUSIC

2022

photos by isabella colmenar



KANM SPRING 2022 SCHEDULE

listen online 24/7 at kanm.org/listen

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
12 a.m.			60 +/-	Midnight Madness	The Night Crawler		Music For Lost Lovers
7 a.m.				Wench Wednesday		Girl Chat with Mac	
8 a.m.	indiana Jonesin'			Multitudes	21st Century Breakdown		
9 a.m.			Pena's Picks	Chips & Salsa	Alec! Alec? Alec.	Ghazal's Gazebo	
10 a.m.	Chillin' w/ HP	Cherry Bomb	MAC	The Game-plan	Rolf Storm	VRSC Talk	For the first time
11 a.m.		Seth Ever Show		Berry Good Beats	Retired from Sad, New Career in MerP	stoked & broke	Saturday Energy
12 p.m.	Bears, BEATS, Battestar Galactica	Holman's Hits	Own Your Stuff	Gaslight Gatekeep Gig 'Em	Maison Music: SS22	60 Minutes of Silence	let skylar you in!
1 p.m.		7 Grounds	dilly-dallie	Vacant Brain Radio	My Little Corner of the World	From Chaos, With Love	Losing It With Khalid
2 p.m.	Timeless tunes			the orange elbow	I'm glad you think its funny	The Larter Show 6: The Return	Top of the Mornin!
3 p.m.	tbd		Spicy Tunes	Radio Side Chats	Cas' Corner	BlackFeather Hour	Ram's Jam's
4 p.m.	Radiooops	The Highs and the Lows	Harmon's Human Habits	Slick and Slacker Songs	In Between Days	Critically Incident	Seinfeld Hour
5 p.m.	Alt Empowers	Consistently Inconsistent	Faves	Deja's Dreams-cape		Music from the Ad-Lib Cafe	
6 p.m.	How do you do (and how do YOU do?)	NICK@NITE	Bueninvento	it's my party		Stream and Stan	The Underwater Pool Party
7 p.m.	Sunday Night Sidebar		60 Minute Party People	Distorted Audio	World Peas	Chill Cats	
8 p.m.	Musical Madness Hour	Monday Blues	TAPScast	On the Rotation	Mint Condition	The Collection	Control Alt Delete
9 p.m.	Down the Western Road with Nate Jackson	Matters of the Mind	PW Why?	Peak Music	MY OWN SUMMER		
10 p.m.	Middle School Lunch	Reggae Soiree	The Aggie Batcave	Kinda Blue	Keep it Texas Trill: The End Times	Deep End Radio	
11 p.m.	Cowabunga		Hour of Darkness	Count-down to Midnight	O'Riley's Think Tank	it's not a phase mom. it never was.	

KANM'S 22 TOP OF 2022*



1. Bladee
2. Hana Vu
3. Beach House
4. The Pine
5. Turnstile!
6. Purple Mountains
7. Beach Goons
8. Denzel Curry
9. Soccermommy
10. black midi
11. The Hellp
12. Machine Girl
13. Black Country New Road
14. George Clinton with Parliament-Funkadelic
15. Inner Wave
16. playboi carti
17. FKA twigs
18. Kittie
19. Mitski
20. Hot flash heat wave
21. the story so far
22. 2 Mello

**not in any
particular
order*